constituted on 19.11.2004 to review the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 as amended in 1972. Dr. S.B. Nakade, former Vice-Chancellor and Jurist; Shri P.P. Shrivastav, IAS(Retd.), former Special Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs; Lt. Gen. (Retd.) V.R. Reghavan, former Director General Military Operation and Shri Sanjoy Hazarika, Journalist, are the members of this Committee.

The Committee would review the provisions of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 and advise whether—

(i) To amend the provisions of the Act to bring them in consonance with the obligations of the Government towards protection of Human Rights; and

(ii) To replace the Act by a more humane Act.

The Committee would submit its report within a period of six months.

Draft Bill on Communal Harmony

625. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has sent a draft Communal Harmony Bill to Law Ministry for its vetting;

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposed Bill;

(c) whether any consultation have been held with the State Governments in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d) A draft Bill to enact a comprehensive law to deal with communal violence is under preparation. It is proposed to consult the State Governments after the Bill is prepared.